

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. Claims 6-9 stand withdrawn. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added.

I. Restriction Requirement

The restriction of claims 6-9 from examination in this application is again respectfully traversed. It is alleged in the Office Action that Group I, claims 1-5, and Group II, claims 6-9, are subject to restriction because the two groups are related as combinations and subcombinations.

However, as indicated at MPEP §806.05(c), to support a requirement for restriction between combination and subcombination, both two-way distinctness and the reason for insisting on the restriction are necessary, i.e., "there would be a serious search burden as evidenced by separate classification, status, or field of search."

As each of Group I and Group II are classified in class 29, there is no serious burden on the Examiner to conduct a search. Further evidence of the lack of any serious burden may be seen in the classification and field of search of each of the references being applied herein. For example, U.S. Patent 5,197,180 to Mihalko is classified in class 29, subclasses 596 and 598. This separate classification is precisely the reason given for restricting Group I from Group II in this application (i.e., same class, separate subclass). Accordingly, there is no burden on the Examiner and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. Rejoinder and consideration of claims 6-9 is requested.

II. Specification

The specification is objected to both in the Abstract and the body of the specification. As each of the Abstract and the body of the specification are amended in reply to the objections, withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,864,715 to Sadier in view of U.S. Patent 5,197,180 to Mihalko. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Neither of Sadier or Mihalko, whether considered alone or in combination, disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in the rejected claims. For example, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest a method for manufacturing a rotary electric machine, the rotary electric machine having a stator core with a plurality of slots and a poly-phase stator winding accommodated in the slots, each phase winding have a plurality of coils, the method comprising winding conductors on a tool to form a belt-shaped coil; drawing the tool out from the belt-shaped coil; curving the belt-shaped coil into a ring; and mounting the belt-shaped coil on the stator core by inserting the conductors into the slots in a manner that electrical phases of the plurality of coils are difference in 180 degrees forming the poly-phase stator winding.

Sadier relates to a process of making "wavy"-type stator windings or electric rotating machines (col. 1, lines 7-14). In Sadier, the conductor wire is formed by creating a successive series of indentations having a predetermined height that increases or decreases from one series of indentations to the next, each of the series corresponding to a complete turn at the coil (col. 2, lines 56-61).

As shown in Figs. 3-5, a three-phase alternator stator is formed by a stack of annular sheets 4 with slots 5 opened toward the axis and toward end faces 6 which receive the three-phase windings belonging to the "wavy"-type winding (col. 5, lines 62-66). However, in the three-phase stator winding of Sadier, the conductors are not inserted into the slots of the core in a manner that electrical phases of the plurality of coils are different in 180 degrees.

As such, the primary reference of Sadier fails to disclose or suggest such a feature.

Mihalko relates to a method for winding an electric motor including winding an insulated conductor about a mandrel to create a coil having a plurality of individual windings, and flattening the coil into a two-layer web. However, Mihalko is silent regarding the mounting of a belt-shaped coil onto a stator core by inserting conductors into slots in a manner that electrical phases of the plurality of coils are difference in 180 degrees. Rather, Mihalko is drawn specifically to the process of winding the conductors on the mandrel. Therefore, even were Sadier combined with Mihalko, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in the rejected claims as amended.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Sadier and Mihalko and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,592,731 to Huang et al. (Huang). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

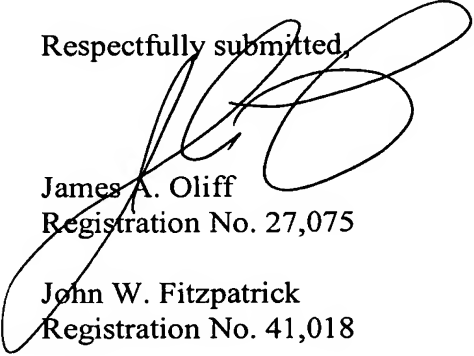
Claim 3 is allowable for its dependency on independent claim 1 for the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features recited therein. Moreover, as the additional reference of Huang fails to disclose or suggest mounting a belt-shaped coil on the stator core by inserting the conductors into the slots in a manner that electrical phases of the plurality of coils are difference in 180 degrees, the combination of references fails to render the subject matter of claim 3 obvious. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

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Date: June 15, 2006

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